



# THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF HADDONFIELD

## *Greenfield Hall*

Volume 53, No. 4

343 Kings Highway East - Haddonfield, New Jersey 08033

November 2009

## THE FIRST THANKSGIVING: FACT AND FICTION

**WITH MERCY INGRAHAM, AUTHOR AND COOKING EXPERT**

**WEDNESDAY EVENING, NOVEMBER 18, 7:30 IN GREENFIELD HALL**

Most of us learned about the Pilgrims when we were in school. We read about their desire to separate from the Church of England, to be able to worship as they wanted to. We learned about their long voyage across the Atlantic in 1620, their landing on what we know as Plymouth Rock and how they survived the first winter with the help of the natives, among them Squanto and Massasoit. And, of course, all this led to what we now know as the First Thanksgiving.

Today we can travel to Massachusetts, visit Plimoth Plantation and walk around the reconstructed settlement to experience life as we think it was in the early 1600's. We can talk with re-enactors, watch as they reproduce the crafts of that time and board the Mayflower II to marvel at the small ship and the tight accommodations which the Pilgrims endured. Nearby, the village of the Wampanoag tribe shows us how the natives lived.

Our Thanksgiving Day, presently celebrated on the fourth Thursday in November, has been an annual tradition in the United States since 1863 although it did not become a federal holiday until 1941. Over the years, many stories have been told and traditions have grown about the Pilgrims and what happened on "their day."

On Wednesday evening, November 18, Mercy Ingraham, our speaker, will discuss the interesting misconceptions and assumptions we all have about the First Thanksgiving and how people lived in the past. She'll tell us what really happened, based on research with original documents and paintings as well as an eye-witness account.

### OUR SPEAKER

Mercy Ingraham is a retired nurse and former Girl Scout who fell in love with fire cooking at the age of ten. She continued using that method while camping and backpacking.

Later, buying a house built in 1750 with a huge open hearth fireplace, her interest in studying food preparation in that way was rekindled.

Today Mercy teaches open hearth cooking and demonstrates historic food preparation. She has co-authored the "Colonial Burlington Cookery" after researching "receipts" which were contained in a cookbook hand-written by Polly Burling in 1770.

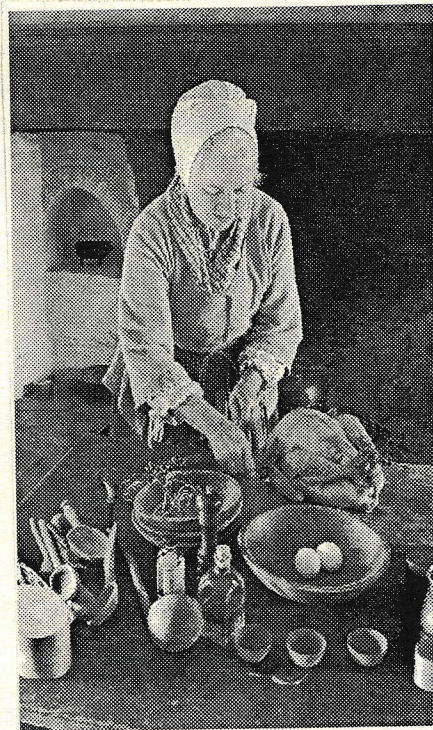


Photo at Phillips House by M. April

We'll learn about some of the adventures the co-authors had in finding out who Polly was and how they came to publish her cookbook. Mercy will also talk about foods which are appropriate for a Harvest Home celebration.

Be sure to join us for our November meeting. We'll enjoy refreshments in the keeping room afterwards and perhaps even be able to taste a delicious treat made from an old recipe.

As always, our members are admitted to our programs free of charge; the fee for non-members is \$5.00.

**Plan to come to Greenfield Hall on Saturday, December 12 between 10 and 3 for our Holly Festival.**



## MEET JEAN LAWES

As we are saying farewell to Barbara Hilgen, our retiring Administrator/Coordinator for the past ten plus years, we are happily welcoming aboard Jean Lawes, the Society's new Administrator/Coordinator. Jean was hired in the beginning of September and began her new job mid-October. She has been shadowing Barbara for several weeks learning her responsibilities with the time-tested method of on-the-job training. Our Officers and Committee Chairs have been or will be meeting with Jean individually to provide insight to and requirements for their respective positions.

Jean has given her first tour of Greenfield Hall and has answered many questions, most pertaining to the Ghost Tours and our famous/infamous Mischief Night Haunted Mansion. She is anxious to get to know you, our members. Her hours are the same -- Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday from 1 to 4 PM and first Sunday, 1 to 3 PM. If the opportunity presents itself to you, please stop by and introduce yourself.

Jean and her husband, Greg, live in town. They have children in our school system and are involved with our community at large in many organizations. The Lawes Family has been active Society members, volunteering in a variety of capacities. Greg is involved with helping us understand and operate our computer systems. Perhaps you will recall Graeme, their eldest, and a sophomore at University of Delaware, who did his Eagle Scout project two years ago, providing Don Wallace, our Curator of Tools, with computer organization. Their daughter, Emily, a senior at HMHS, is Vice President of the Art National Honor Society and is active on the field hockey team and the Crew team. Consuming much of her time at present is her search for just the right college. Wyatt, an eight grader at HMS, is heavily involved with Boy Scouts and is working on his Trail to Eagle Scout. He enjoys riding his bike, playing the drums and among other activities, sings in his church choir. When he gets to high school next year, he hopes to join the Crew team.



Jean Lawes

Now you know a bit about Jean. She is thrilled with her new job and representing the Society at our meetings, events and community activities. Join me in wishing Jean all the best with HSH.

One cannot help but notice as you drive by Greenfield Hall, the handsome finished project on the Samuel Mickle House. Jim Hansen of Hansen Painting and his crew completed the tedious job at the end of September, providing the TLC this building desperately required. The funding for this project came from the ticket sale proceeds from the 2007 Haddonfield Holiday House Tour. Thank you to our members and their guests who were able to support that fund raiser.

Thank you also for supporting our events and meetings. As I write this I am hoping that the Ghost Tour tomorrow night won't get washed out as it did the week before, and that the weather will cooperate the night of our Haunted Mansion on October 30th. We look forward to another successful Holly Festival on Saturday, December 12, 10 AM to 3 PM.

Happy Thanksgiving!

Keep in touch with us at [www.historicalsocietyofhaddonfield.org](http://www.historicalsocietyofhaddonfield.org).



## PROGRAM ON EVANS POND

The Historical Society of Haddonfield and the Haddonfield Parks Conservancy will sponsor an illustrated talk by Deborah Garwood on Wednesday, December 9 at 7:30 PM in the auditorium of the Borough Hall, 242 Kings Highway East. Her talk will feature the history of Evans Pond and its present day situation.

It was back in 1997 that Haddonfield native Deborah Garwood began a photographic study of Evans Pond, a part of Cooper River Park that borders both Haddonfield and Cherry Hill. Over a period of ten years, she took many hundreds of photographs, using cameras ranging from a simple "point-and-shoot" to a highly sophisticated digital.

She also researched the history and changing fortunes of the pond, a natural resource that served as a millpond in colonial times and prospered under generations of Quaker farmers. From the American Revolution to Civil War eras, the mills at Evans Pond fostered lively economic and social networks for residents of Haddonfield and surrounding communities. The mill's status and the pond's natural beauty were celebrated in boating festivals and casual recreational activities year-round.

When agricultural patterns changed at the close of the 19th century, the mill was no longer viable. Haddonfield residents voted to preserve the area as a park in the early 20th century. Improvements under New Deal programs were partially completed by the late 1930s. After World War II, upstream development led the pond toward ecological decline over a period of fifty years, a potentially reversible state that is being studied by New Jersey's Soil Conservation Department.

Deborah Garwood's essay, more than 100 of her color photographs, and several historical images used by permission of the Historical Society of Haddonfield have been published in a 104-page book, *Evans Pond: A Long-term Study of a Single Place*.

In a review of the book, Jonathan Hyman, a documentary photographer based in New York, commented: "We live in a fast-paced world ruled by technology, an epoch when as a society we must make difficult choices in order to coexist with nature. This book puts it all together – artistically, conceptually, historically, and scientifically. Read this book, look at it, and then look out the window." Copies of the book will be available for purchase at \$25. A portion of the proceeds will benefit the sponsoring organizations.

Born in Haddonfield with Quaker ancestry, Deborah is an artist, author, and college professor based in New York. Selections from her archive of Evans Pond photographs will be featured in a solo exhibition at the Antonio Perez Foundation in Cuenca, Spain, in the summer of 2010 (which explains the book's inclusion of Spanish text and captions).

## COMMITTEE CHAIRS, 2009-2010

(Telephone numbers are in the 856 area unless otherwise noted)

### Buildings

Ruth Sine

609-330-7035

### Collections

#### General

Dianne Snodgrass

428-6823

#### Tools

Don Wallace

857-9731

#### Dolls

Shirley Raynor

428-6791

### Education

Ann Biddle

429-6378

### Exhibits

Dianne Snodgrass

428-6823

### Finance

Tom Mervine

428-0053

### Fund Raising

Carol Smith

429-8331

### Grounds

Bob Marshall

795-1514

### Library

Kathy Tassini

429-2462

### Membership

Barbara Hilgen

429-4594

### Publicity/Bulletin

Connie Reeves

429-0326

### Rentals

Lee Albright

354-9761

## OUR SUNDAY MEETING

The staff of the Haddonfield Home welcomed us for our September meeting where we enjoyed seeing their lovely facilities. Kathy Tassini, our talented research librarian, related the history of the mansion which dates back to 1850's.

Refreshments, made in the Home's kitchen, and a drawing of names of those present for a basket of goodies concluded the afternoon.

Sophie Dubiel was the lucky winner of the beautiful basket. She's pictured here with Pat McEvoy, Community Relations Director of the Home.





## HOUSES MOVING AROUND AND ABOUT – Part VII

### WOOD FARM TENANT HOUSE TO SADDLERTOWN

By Helen Mountney

In 1676, 1/90<sup>th</sup> of an undivided tract of land called "West New Jersey" was deeded from William Penn, et al, to William Peachy, who soon sold 1/8<sup>th</sup> of this land to Richard Matthews. Mr. Matthews bought an adjoining plot of ground from Henry Story and Nicholas Sax in 1678. In 1699, Matthews sold all of this to John Haddon who in 1721 deeded it to his daughter, Elizabeth Haddon and her husband, John Estaugh. Their home was built on the site of the present house at 201 Wood Lane and was called New Haddonfield. This was a 2-1/2 story yellow brick building with a two-story addition attached.

John Estaugh died in 1742 on the island of Tortola in the West Indies, and Elizabeth Haddon died in 1762. She willed this property to her great nephew John Estaugh Hopkins.

In 1829, the property was purchased by Elizabeth Cooper who married Isaac Wood two years later. The Woods lived there until 1842, when the house was destroyed by fire. The Isaac Wood family (which now included six children), was invited to stay with the Redman family (in the house at the corner of Westmont and Redman Avenues) while a new farm house was built.

Mr. and Mrs. Wood had occupied their property as a busy, profitable working farm including vegetables, calves, cows and chickens, and later, a grove of fruit trees. They did a great deal of lumbering on the property, particularly in the winter.

Isaac Wood died in 1879 and Elizabeth, his wife, died in 1880, leaving the farm to their three sons, Samuel, Joseph, and John. Joseph and John transferred their shares to their brother Samuel, who by this time had married Marguerite J. Robinson of Canandaigua, New York.

Samuel Wood continued farming this acreage until the big farm was sold on January 2, 1920, to a developer, Earl R. Lippincott, to build the Estates section of Haddonfield. At that time, Mr. and Mrs. Wood kept three and one-third acres for themselves. Unfortunately, Samuel Wood was killed in the spring of 1929 by a bus on Haddon Avenue while he was using his beloved horse and buggy to do his errands around town. He is buried in the Friends Burial Ground here in Haddonfield.

The Atlas of the Vicinity of Camden, New Jersey, dated 1907, shows three small 1-1/2 story houses near the corner of Hopkins Mill Road (now Maple Avenue) and Grove Street on the back corner of the Samuel Wood farm property. These tenant houses were built in 1841 and were used by the help on the Woods' farm. This farm was bounded by Grove Street, Maple and Haddon Avenues, and the creek which was southeast of what is now Hopkins Avenue.

According to Audrey (Peyton) Blackburn, now of Trenton, New Jersey, one of these houses was occupied by Benjamin Peyton and his wife, Florence (Wright) Peyton. Florence, part Sioux Indian and part British, was born in Delaware Township, which is now Cherry Hill Township. Benjamin was employed by the Woods and really was a jack-of-all trades for them most of his working life. Mr. and Mrs. Peyton had four children born in that house, Daisy, Verna, Benjamin, Jr., and the youngest, Robert, born in 1913, who was Audrey's father.

In 1920, when the Woods were getting ready to sell most of their property, the Peyton's tenant house was moved (presumably by horse power) to become 519 Rhoads Avenue in the Saddlertown section of Haddon Township. This was quite a distance for a maneuver like this, but not especially difficult since it was a fairly straight route. Horses could have pulled this load straight out Maple Avenue, across Haddon Avenue to Stoy Road (now Crystal Lake Avenue), bumped over the railroad tracks, and gone straight toward the area, where MacArthur Boulevard is now, to Rhoads Avenue. On Rhoads, they would have gone to a lot on the large plot of ground owned by Dr. Lawrence Litchfield Glover, a physician, lovingly known as "Shorty" by his close friends, who practiced medicine at 53 Kings Highway West for many years.



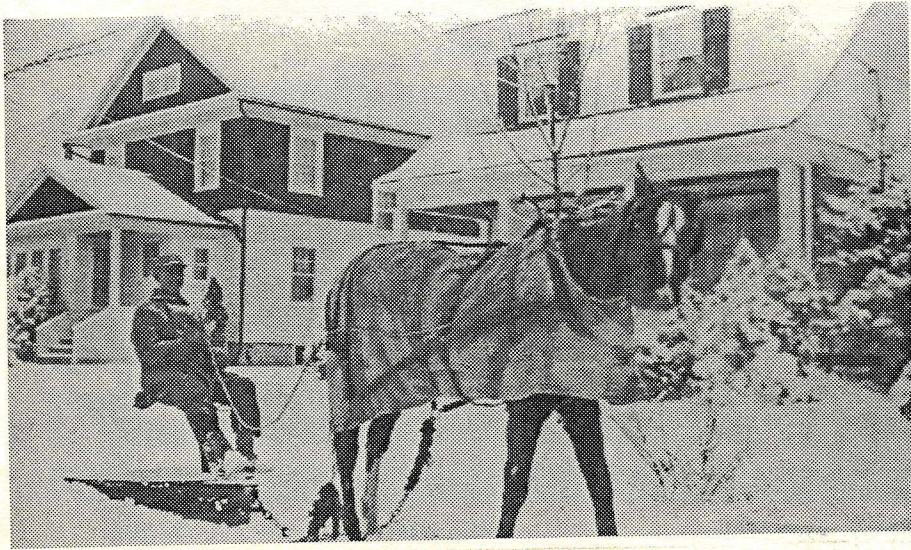
The Wood Farm Tenant House



Saddlertown consists of a group of homes in Haddon Township off MacArthur Boulevard (formerly Camden Avenue) which took its name from Joshua Saddler. Mr. Saddler, a former slave, who was born in Maryland (about 1837), and changed his name from Joseph Fisher when he came north, acquired about six acres of ground before the Civil War by a land grant from Cy Evans, a local Quaker. Descendants of Saddler continue to live there. There is a lovely little church, The Rhoads Chapel, built in 1892, almost directly across the street from the Peyton house. Actually, the Chapel is really within walking distance of all the houses in Saddlertown. Funds and plans for the chapel were donated by Charles and Beulah Rhoads of Haddonfield.

Shortly after the house was moved, the Peytons had "indoor plumbing" installed, and later an addition was added, making this a very comfortable home for the Benjamin Peyton family. Because his home was now a distance from the Wood farm, Ben rode his bicycle back and forth to work every day. He never owned a car.

After the major portion of the Wood property was sold, Ben took care of the large vegetable garden and the prized rose garden, and, of course, almost everything else around the large property until his death in 1941.



Benjamin Peyton, "Ben," helping the neighbors

Ben was well known in the Estates section of Haddonfield and was a friend to all (and was always known just as "Ben"). He knew the neighborhood kids by name (mine included) and the kids all loved and respected him. I mentioned in a previous article that many times he hooked up the farm's horse and plow to clean the snow off the nearby sidewalks! He was born in Shiloh, Virginia, on February 7, 1878, and Samuel Wood hired him in 1911, soon after he arrived in this area. Sadly, Ben died in November of 1941 at the age of 63. He is buried in Mt. Peace Cemetery at the corner of Mouldy Road and White Horse Pike, in Lawnside.

The home on Rhoads Avenue was owned by Robert's widow, Catherine (Collins) Peyton, until August of 2008 when she died at the age of 88. In May of 2009, the property was sold and

in August the house was demolished. What a sad day for the Peyton family and for Saddlertown and Haddon Township in general. It was an historic treasure.

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# A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE JOHN ESTAUGH HOPKINS HOUSE AND GROUNDS

65 Haddon Avenue

by Katherine M. Tassini

"Preserve the old landmarks" is the phrase which begins Rebecca Nicholson Taylor's small memorial to her aunts, Rebecca Nicholson (1834-1925) and Sarah Nicholson (1837-1925) following their closely timed deaths in 1925. Called "The Wind Passeth Over It," this little reminiscence of her beloved aunts and their wonderful home, the house at 65 Haddon Avenue called "Boxwood Hall" is full of wonderful stories and insights relating to both the house and the two aunts. Taylor observes "The old house still stands, in perfect order, bearing testimony to the Quaker thoroughness of the builder, and the faithful care of those who succeeded him...Alas, can such things now remain, in this swiftly changing time!" A prophetic observation perhaps.

The house that stands at 65 Haddon Avenue in Haddonfield is one of the finest and few remaining eighteenth century dwellings which still stands in Haddonfield, both for the fact that the structure exists with very few alterations to its original design and for the fact that it still retains much of its setting, among trees and lawns near the center of town, as it was envisioned by its builder, John Estaugh Hopkins, grand-nephew of the founder of Haddonfield.

John Estaugh Hopkins, who built the house at 65 Haddon Avenue in 1799, was the eldest grand-nephew of John and Elizabeth Haddon Estaugh. John's father, Ebenezer Hopkins, was the son of Elizabeth Haddon Estaugh's sister, Sarah Haddon Hopkins. He had been brought to New Haddonfield at the age of five and raised as the heir of John and Elizabeth Haddon Estaugh. Ebenezer died before his Aunt Elizabeth Estaugh, leaving a wife and seven children. John Estaugh Hopkins was 19 years old at the time of his father's death. When John Estaugh Hopkins was 24 years old in 1762, his Great Aunt, Elizabeth Haddon Estaugh, died at the age of 82, leaving her eldest grand-nephew her residence and a large part of her estate, including "all of my plantation and tract of land called New Haddonfield."

John Estaugh Hopkins married Sarah Mickle two months after the death of Elizabeth Haddon Estaugh and lived in the New Haddonfield house where seven children were born and where he lived for 38 years. At the age of 62, John Estaugh Hopkins decided to build a home that would be closer to town for his wife and two unmarried daughters, Hannah and Sally, and thus built the house at 65 Haddon Avenue. He moved to it with his wife and daughters, leaving his son, James, and his wife, Rebecca Clement, and their four children to live in and run the New Haddonfield estate. The "new" house was located on the corner of the New Haddonfield property closest to the village of Haddonfield, and near the Friends School and Friends Meeting both of which were essential in the life of John Estaugh Hopkins. He had donated the land on which Haddonfield Friends School stands to the Meeting for a school in 1786. John Estaugh Hopkins died in 1806, leaving the house to his wife and daughters. Sally Hopkins died in 1808 at the age of 33, never having married. In 1808 Sarah Mickle Hopkins passed away and the surviving unmarried daughter, Hannah, lived in the house for 25 years, until her death in 1838 at the age of 73.

Following the death of Hannah Hopkins, the house was bought by 47 year old Beulah Hopkins, Hannah's niece who had been very close to her Aunt. Beulah Hopkins married Samuel Nicholson, widower of Beulah's deceased niece, Rebecca Hopkins Nicholson. Samuel had been left with five young children when Rebecca died. Following the marriage, Samuel and the children moved into Beulah's Haddonfield home where they lived happily for 23 years until Beulah Hopkins Nicholson died in 1863. By Beulah's will, Samuel Nicholson received the house until his death, after which it went to Samuel's youngest daughter, Sarah Nicholson. Samuel Nicholson died at the age of 92 and at his death the house passed to the two unmarried daughters, Sarah and Rebecca Nicholson, who lived in it for the rest of their lives. It was the Nicholsons who gave the land across the street to the Borough of Haddonfield for a public library and historical society building in 1917.

The house continued in the female Hopkins-Nicholson line when it was bought by Eleanor Rhoads Elkinton and her husband, Thomas, after the deaths of Sarah and Rebecca Nicholson. It finally left the family in about 1965. Used as a professional office for over twenty years, the property was purchased by Haddonfield Friends School several years ago as part of their plan to become a K-8 school. Currently the school is partnering with a developer in requesting a zoning variance to erect a 52 unit assisted living unit on the property.

The house is one of nine houses in Haddonfield that are part of the Historic American Buildings Survey which documented, photographed and did architectural drawings of important American buildings in the 1930's. It has also been the subject of two histories written by Rebecca Nicholson Taylor, "The Wind Passeth Over It" and "A Family History of the Residence of Rebecca and



Sarah Nicholson." It is also discussed in the book "My Ancestors" by William Hopkins Nicholson as well as in *This Is Haddonfield* by the Historical Society of Haddonfield and *Haddonfield Historic Homes* by Joan L. Aiken.

The most detailed description of the property is found in the monograph written by the noted 19<sup>th</sup> century naturalist, Samuel Nicholson Rhoads, in 1929 and published by the Historical Society of Haddonfield in 1967, called "Boyhood Memories of Boxwood Hall." Rhoads was a nephew of Sarah and Rebecca Nicholson who lived in "the house across the way" at 56 Haddon Avenue (now demolished) and spent much of his life in and around 65 Haddon Avenue. Among the important details relating to the property are his descriptions of the house, barns, outbuildings and unique trees on the property.

Rhoads discusses old buildings on the place that still exist, including the woodshed which was on the Lake Street side and contained a tool room, feed for the chickens and pigs, including a Swill Barrel. It adjoined the Chicken Yard along Lake Street which was later moved to the barn yard. It is likely that the small residence now located behind 65 Haddon Avenue that faces Lake Street incorporates the original woodshed and tool room since both the 1877 and 1907 maps clearly show an outbuilding at the exact location of the house. The large barn was located where the office building immediately to the north of 65 Haddon Avenue now stands. He also described in detail the brick smokehouse "yet standing intact near the side gate on Lake Street."

Samuel N. Rhoads goes on to describe in detail the impressive trees on the property and particularly notes "the immortal Yew at the Lake Street gate...grown from seed by my Grandmother Hopkins from the even more immortal Yews at 'Haddon Hall' of Haddonfield (201 Wood Lane)". He also notes the "R. Hopkins Yew, right on the Haddon Avenue fence line, as well as a Tree-Box which was probably put in by John Estaugh Hopkins when he built "Boxwood Hall." Rhoads also discusses in detail the water courses which flowed through the property and the woods on the property that they called "Grandfather's Woods" which he described as a great playground for boys and girls. They loved to make dams across the branch of the stream that came down from the Friends Grave yard across Lake Street, under Lake Street and onto the Boxwood Hall property at what he called "the pig lot". This stream had narrow and deep banks which gave the children the opportunity to work on their damming methods, none of which apparently could stand up to volume of a heavy summer rain. In his Uncle William Nicholson's day, Rhoads said that they were able to fish in the streams on the property and catch "some good sized suckers, perch and catties that came up from Hopkins Pond in spring to spawn."

Samuel Rhoads ended his reminiscences of Boxwood Hall with the following statement of hope. "And thus endeth...my Reminiscences of Boxwood Hall, its endeared people and its spacious and historic grounds. Let us hope they long may endure."



Photo of Boxwood Hall taken ca. 1909 for Samuel Nicholson Rhodes



## LABORE EST ORARE

by Don Wallace

"To work is to pray." This Latin phrase is now applied to our introductory tool display panel at the base of the cellar steps. This is also where the most important tool in America's development, the axe, is first displayed along with another most common and ordinary old domestic tool, the rug beater. With this once ubiquitous tool hangs a feather bed fluffer which is usually misidentified, but could have been incorrectly used or abused as a rug beater as well.

With these widely disparate and symbolic tools is a handsome veneer cutter's knife which represents wood-working, a noble trade and also a popular hobby even today. It is like a long, curved and carved wooden violin scroll that provides great cutting leverage when laid upon the artisan's shoulder in order to cut precisely those thin strips of exotic woods. It hangs there while standing for the most intricate and challenging aspect of that avocation, marquetry and parquetry, a matter of pride in mastery as well as gratitude to God for the talent potential that He bestows.

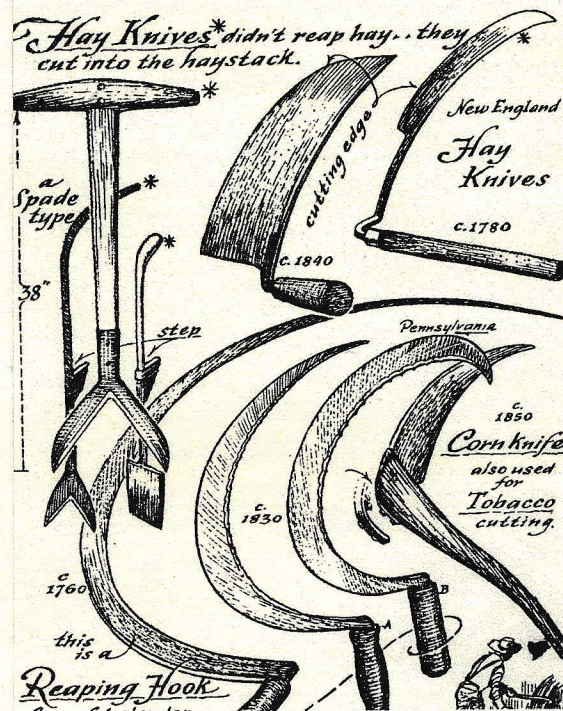
An auger (drill) representing both home building and shipbuilding augurs a hint of what is to follow in additional displays and demonstrations within these Museum Cellars. Plus the next best "gotcha" of all tool tours - the reaping hook. Often misidentified as a common sickle, trying to duplicate the ovaloid curve of a reaping hook made by a blacksmith provided the greatest challenge to my favorite American artist/writer, Eric Sloane.

Eric Sloane is believed to have been responsible for changing the name of that tool from "reaping sickle" to "reaping hook" due to the popularity of his books and drawings. But there was another device, which he also pictures, that is really a reaping hook from his *A Museum of Early American Tools*, and seen here. But regional differences may account for many discrepancies in tool names and identification, not to mention poor memories, illiteracy, and language differences.

Everard Hinrichs, alias Eric Sloane, is most reliably responsible for popularizing "tool collecting" as a hobby (or sport?), and not just for men. Our entire "Domestic Section" is full of the great tools that women used in the home. Perhaps it was "Rosie, the riveter" who began to change all that during World War II?

That which we commonly call a sickle is now also hanging on the intro-panel to demonstrate the big difference in their two shapes. (One can see Sloane's difficulty in the fatness or roundness of his curves in trying to capture the ovaloid shape of the reaping hook.) The round sickle for cutting overgrown lawn grasses, the reaping sickle for cutting tall grasses like wheat for hay or straw. The crux of proper tool

selection -- which to use? WHATEVER WORKS!



From *A Museum of American Tools* by Eric Sloane

Eric Sloane was most interested in the sculptural shapes of tools. His pen-and-ink drawings are what first impressed me long before I became a tool collector. His drawings are unique and his style is recognizably, undeniably, unmistakably his own. You, too, may be able to see this in the several illustrations reproduced here (hopefully with permission, if I can locate his estate offices) in an effort to save three thousand words. His epitaph expresses his spiritual relationship best..."God knows I tried."

"When I first viewed Sloane's original oil paintings in New York City (1980?) at his patron, Haig Tasjian's engraving shop (then color separations for offset lithography), my respect for his artistic genius was re-kindled and I began to collect more of his books. I am considering an appeal to his estate to use his illustrations to explain our tools. Too many folks are already using his drawings for just this purpose, but I wish to use them with legitimate credit in his honor. His art and his writings are steeped in reality, history, the love of America, and a reverence for its past. He, too, honors the housewives, each of the artisans, and the farmers who in our Museum Cellars "wore many hats." His works are enduring as I hope our work here will be. Eric Sloane would have liked what we are doing here. You should make a point to visit his museum in Kent, Connecticut. Contact me for directions and timing details...it used to be weird like "Closed on Tuesdays." We learned that



the hard way, and now it has been taken over by the state.

This was written as we drove into northwestern New Jersey to visit with the family of my son, Mark, who teaches Technology Education at High Point Regional High School. The weather was perfect that weekend and the cumulous clouds would have provided Eric Sloane with all of the inspiration he could have wished for. Even the trip home was breathtaking.

You may also be interested to know that our new dehumidifier in the Museum Cellars is working perfectly. We're very comfortable now that we are again properly dehumidified. So come on down to witness the HISTORY OF TECHNOLOGY and see the tools that helped to make so many folks in our history so honorable and gracious. Labore est orare!

A rubbing of this Latin phrase was provided to us by

David Graeber, premier local glass sculptor of beautiful paper weights. You'll be able to see his glass paperweights on display May 13, 14, and 15, 2010, at the Paperweight Fest at Wheaton Arts (formerly Wheaton Village) in Millville, New Jersey. He recently displayed in Haddonfield at the Accent Studio on Friday, Oct 2, but our publication timing was off for that announcement.

David has also donated several artifacts for both our domestic and trade collections. They are a jeweler's kiln with crucible and tongs, as well as a stag-handled chopper with hand carved chopping bowl that fits the curve of the chopper perfectly. We are very grateful to him for these donations, and his labor, too, is truly inspiring.

It is, indeed, an honor to work in the company of these great artists and artisans, past and present.

## PRESERVATION

### WHAT IT IS, WHAT IT ISN'T by Ruth Sine

The purpose of historic preservation is to conserve historic materials. It is not renovation. The goal of preservation is not to make a building look acceptable according to current taste, or to recreate a new-old building to fit into some conceptual theme. The goal is to ensure that existing historic materials will last. In the process of restoring the Mickle House, we were presented with choices that seemed confusing or contradictory.

Research showed us that the entire rear addition was added when the building was relocated to its current location around 1970. The Preservation Commission told us to use wood siding on the newer rear addition to replace the ca. 1970 siding, which had deteriorated. The HPC's ruling was based on information from Joan Aiken's book, *Haddonfield Historic Homes*, which mistakenly claims that the addition dates from the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

According to the National Parks Service Preservation Briefs (upon which Haddonfield's historic preservation guidelines are loosely based), "an addition should be differentiated from the historic building so that the new work is not confused with what is genuinely part of the past" (Preservation Brief 14 by Kay D. Weeks). In the interest of getting our permit, moving the project along, and preventing further deterioration, the Historical Society installed cedar clapboard on the addition, as directed by the Borough.

There are two problems with this decision: First, no part of any antique addition remains; nor is there any record of what type of wood siding was used in the old, missing addition. What was the vertical exposure of the original siding on the lost addition? Was it dimensional lumber or tapered clapboards? We were guessing. Genuine horizontal clapboards from the Mickle House's era may have been "rived and skived," referring to the methods used to split and join the boards. Although there

are still craftsmen who produce boards that way, they are mostly doing it for exhibition, not production for sale. The second problem is that by using material that blends the non-historic addition with the historic house, we risk fooling the public into believing that the addition is historic. In the end, we purchased the best locally-available siding that we could afford, and it looks good.

Another dilemma which presented itself was the gift of authentic antique windows from one of the Historical Society's members, Jim Hansen. He had enough sash, with the original glass, to replace the front windows of the historic portion. When our windows were pulled out, it was obvious that they were poor reproductions. Side by side, Jim's antique windows were superior in every way, made up of slender muntins fully mortised into the stiles and rails which in turn were joined with mortises and tenons. So, rather than put back the reproductions, we asked Jim to install the antique window sash. At least the "real thing" is showcased as part of another "real thing." But once again, the public might assume that those antique windows are original to the building.

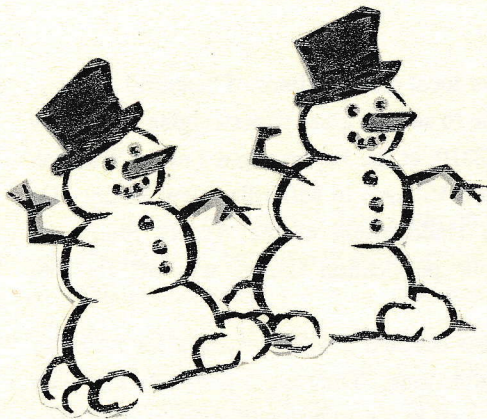
I'm a fan of Ada Louise Huxtable, the venerable architecture critic. I'll wind up with two quotes pertaining to preservation from Ms. Huxtable.

"Once the original is gone or beyond salvation you are faking it..." (Wall Street Journal, December 10, 2008)

"What preservation is really all about is the retention and active relationship of the buildings of the past to the community's functioning present." (Goodbye History, Hello Hamburger, 1986).

There could not be a better description of the Samuel Mickle House, which is not only an architectural treasure but also the storehouse of Haddonfield's written legacy.





# HOLLY FESTIVAL

**Saturday, December 12 at Greenfield Hall**

**10:00 AM to 3:00 PM**

Another year has flown by and, ready or not, it's time to prepare for the **Holly Festival**. We're planning to have our beautiful basket arrangements again, as well as fresh, loose greens in many varieties. Cakes, cookies, pies, breads and jams will fill the pantry. The boutique table will be inviting with one-of-a-kind items, including antiques and collectibles. Our own commemoratives will be available, many of them exclusively Haddonfield, making them unique gifts. Craftsmen, "old" and new, will be selling their special wares, including hand-made country crafts.

**The Holly Festival** has been one of our biggest fund-raisers for many years because everyone pitches in to help. We have always depended upon the support of our entire membership to make the Festival a success, a day to be remembered. It's a great opportunity to have fun while making a contribution to the Society. Sophie Dubiel is again chairing the big event and will appreciate your help and suggestions. Call Sophie at 428-0015.

**We need lots of greens for baskets and arrangements and varieties to be sold loose.** With a great variety of greens, we can make more interesting creations. Greens can be left on the patio in the rear of Greenfield Hall starting on Monday, December 7. If you can't deliver them, we'll be happy to pick them up. Call the office at 429-7375 to make arrangements.

**Craft items which can be sold at our boutique table.** Many of you are very talented, creating unique holiday ornaments and gifts. We'd love to have your donations. You are also invited to donate new or nearly-new Christmas-related items, collectibles of all kinds, such as jewelry, linens, glassware, etc. Call Sophie or leave a message at the office.

**Help us stock our pantry.** The pantry is a popular place, many times the first place people come. The more we have, the more we'll be able to sell and we certainly don't want to run out of goodies early. Call us to volunteer.

**Lots of helping hands will make our work lighter and much more fun.** Help make greens arrangements with our trusted veterans. They'll show you how it's done if you've had no experience. If you've made arrangements before, come and share your expertise with the group. We'll meet in Greenfield Hall during the week of December 7<sup>th</sup>.

**Circle the date, Saturday, December 12, on your calendar.** Invite your friends, neighbors and relatives to come to Greenfield Hall that day to enjoy our Holly Festival. It's the best time to get into the holiday spirit and introduce your friends to our Society.

## LIBRARY NEWS

by Kathy Tassini

I hope that everyone has been by the Mickle House recently and seen the absolutely amazing exterior restoration done by Jim Hansen and his fantastic team of Anthony and Ray. Beginning in the early summer, they repaired, scraped, sanded, primed and stained our wonderful little building to within an inch of its life. The result is a fresh, fantastic restoration of our very important 18<sup>th</sup> century saddler's shop (now library).

To go along with this wonderful restoration, and as a result of having had to move some of the collections away from doorways and windows during the work, we are now beginning a process of reorganizing our shelving and work areas and re-housing many of the library materials to make them safer and more accessible. It will be our major task for the next couple of months, but when combined with our new library and museum software, PastPerfect, it should make things even more "perfect" for our researchers and volunteers. We will continue to welcome researchers and volunteers, old and new, and just ask you to bear with us while we do some much needed housekeeping on the inside.



## MEMBERSHIP

by Barbara Hilgen

Many thanks to our new member and all who have renewed their memberships since the September Newsletter was published. The Society relies on the funds an active membership generates to maintain our historic properties and collections, and to teach the history of Haddonfield through programs, exhibits, and tours. In addition we are able to continue collecting Haddonfield's archives in our Library and make them accessible to the public for research.

### New Member, *Frederick Shindle*

### Renewing Members, Senior

*Kathi Bell Charles and Gail Benson Joan Brown Alberta Kramer Joan Gamble Janice and Walden Holl*  
*Edward Huth Mary Ann Howell Nancy Martin Nancy Mattis Ralph Newkirk Elizabeth Meldrum*  
*Alice Schmidt Albert Sandecki Zita Seher Ruth Shaffer Marion Willis*

### Renewing Members, Contributing

*Robert Acampora Thomas Bantivoglio Helen Boyle Susan Briant Marion Chorley Alex Colalillo*  
*Dorothy Daly Gloria DiMedio Gwynn DiPilla Jessica Frankel Lloyd Gardner Joel Korin*  
*Joseph Kelly Fran Miller Paul Nussbaum Cynthia Plucinski Frederick Rohloff James Spotila*  
*Toni Vielehr David and Susan Hunter John and Judy Juzaitis*

### Renewing Members, Contributing Households

*Pete and Pat Bentley Terence and Helene Delaney Mary and Parker Griffith David and Gail Gross*  
*Robert and Dorothy Herbert Jean and Greg Lawes Mark and Linda Watson Don and Caryl Wallace*  
*Curt and Denise Wrzeszczynski*

### Patrons

*The Owl's Tale, Inc.*

.....  
Please use this form to invite your friends to join us by becoming members of the Society.

### MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION 2009-2010

I (We) would like to join the Historical Society of Haddonfield at the following level:

- |                            |       |
|----------------------------|-------|
| ( ) Contributing Member    | \$ 35 |
| ( ) Senior Citizen         | 25    |
| ( ) Contributing Household | 55    |
| ( ) Patron Member          | 150   |
| ( ) Patron Household       | 250   |
| ( ) Founder's Society      | 1,000 |
| ( ) Founder's Household    | 1,500 |

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Please write check to *Historical Society of Haddonfield* and mail to the Society at 343 Kings Highway East, Haddonfield NJ 08033.



The Historical Society of Haddonfield  
343 Kings Highway East  
Haddonfield, New Jersey 08033

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Cherry Hill, NJ  
Permit # 166

**GREENFIELD HALL HOURS**

Wednesday, Thursday, Friday afternoons  
and the first Sunday afternoon of the month  
from 1:00 to 4:00

**RESEARCH LIBRARY HOURS**

Tuesday and Thursday mornings  
from 9:30 to 11:30  
and the first Sunday of the month  
from 1 to 3 in the afternoon

**SPECIAL HOURS BY APPOINTMENT**

856-429-7375

[www.historicalsocietyofhaddonfield.org](http://www.historicalsocietyofhaddonfield.org)

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**November 18** Meeting, Greenfield Hall, 7:30 PM. Mercy Ingraham presents  
"The First Thanksgiving: Fact and Fiction"

**December 12** Holly Festival, Greenfield Hall, 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM

**2010**

**January 31** Appraisal Day, Sunday afternoon, 1 to 5, Greenfield Hall,  
Appraiser, Shaula Wright. \$5.00 per item, limit 3 items

**March 24** Candlelight Dinner, Tavistock Country Club, 6:00 PM  
Gary Stone on the Indian King

**April** Founder's Day, TBA